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UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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The Honorable Frank Kendall Secretary of the Air Force 1670 Air Force Pentagon Washington, DC 20330-1670

Dear Secretary Kendall:

As Members of Congress representing southern California, we urge you to give strong consideration to March Air Reserve Base (MARB) as the fifth KC-46A Main Operating Base. For more than 100 years, March Air Reserve Base has played a critical role in our nation's military. MARB is the nation's largest reserve base, uniquely positioned geographically and is the only Reserve candidate location with a current Active Association. We are incredibly proud of the vital role that March Air Reserve Base plays in ensuring our national security and of the men and women who serve there.

For many reasons March Air Reserve Base is the optimal location to house the new tanker. On the Pacific coast it is home to Active Duty, Air National Guard, and Air Reserve units. Current operations include the KC-135 Stratotanker, the C-17 Globemaster, and remotely-piloted aircraft missions, highlighting MARB's diverse experience. As a former Strategic Air Command base and having invested significantly in the necessary on-site infrastructure, March Air Reserve Base is fully capable of hosting the KC-46A tankers. March Air Reserve Base has much to offer the Air Force in terms of continued mission excellence.

March Air Reserve Base also offers proximity to the southern California defense ecosystem. From defense contractors large and small to opportunities for interoperability with the Navy, Marine Corps, and Space Systems Command, March Air Reserve Base is in the center of some our country's most strategic national assets. Beyond the daily operations and defense ecosystem in the region, the military friendly community and support for the MARB is unmatched. March Air Reserve Base is a place these dedicated servicemembers could call home.

We highly encourage you to come tour the base and see for yourself all that March Air Reserve Base has to offer. Consistent with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations we respectfully ask that you give full consideration for basing the KC-46 at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside County, California.

Sincerely,

KEN CALVERT Member of Congress

Ken Calvert

Mark Takano Member of Congress

Mark Jahany

Darrell Issa Member of Congress

Mike Garcia Member of Congress

Michelle Steel Member of Congress

Young Kim Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D. Member of Congress

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Salud Carbajal Member of Congress

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Juan Vargas

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